



## Raw: Tokyo Street Graphics

Ryo Sanada

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- No comparable book documents Tokyo's street graphics at this level
- Tokyo is one of the highest-interest cities globally for design, culture, and travel buyers
- Japan dominates the Asia Pacific photobook and album market and photobooks are culturally embedded as gifting objects. The international interest in Japanese aesthetics and visual culture shows no signs of contracting
- First-person voices from five Tokyo practitioners — photographers, graffiti writers, musicians, architects, sign painters among them — give the book editorial credibility beyond a straight photography title
- Foreword by a leading figure from Japan's institutional design and photography world
- Volume one of a confirmed global series — London next, then Berlin, Seoul, Barcelona, Paris, Amsterdam

*RAW* is a new series documenting street graphics in cities around the world. Volume one is Tokyo. Every city leaves a visual record of itself on its own surfaces. Tokyo's is unlike anywhere else. Stickers layered over stickers, posters that outlast their purpose, signs that become accidental compositions, marks and residue that accumulate into something nobody designed but everybody sees. **RAW: Tokyo** is a forensic, beautiful document of that record. Shot across the city's most visually dense neighbourhoods, it captures the tension at the heart of Tokyo's streets: extraordinary control existing alongside extraordinary overload. Alongside the photography, five Tokyo practitioners — photographers, graffiti writers, musicians, architects, journalists, sign painters, curators, artists — write from inside this visual environment. Each the only possible choice. A foreword by a leading Japanese curator closes the volume. The first volume in an ongoing series. Next: London.

**Ryo Sanada** is a Brussels-based creative director, author and publisher. He is the founder of Stickerbomb, the internationally recognised street graphics series now in its eighteenth year, and co-author of *Rackgaki: Japanese Graffiti*. His independent imprint Soi Books publishes at the intersection of subculture, design and visual culture. *RAW* is his most ambitious authoring project to date.